

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1031

By Travis

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Tommy Earl Snyder upon receiving the Elmer Hinds Republican of the Year Award for 2014.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Tommy Earl Snyder, who recently received the Elmer Hinds Republican of the Year Award for 2014; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Snyder was born on August 20, 1959, to Howard and Betty (Runyan) Snyder, and has four siblings, Frank Sutton, Eddie Snyder, Debbie Brown, and Becky Davis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Snyder learned the importance of hard work and perseverance from his mother who, after being widowed when Tommy was three years old, raised her five children on her own; having never learned to drive a vehicle, Betty Snyder walked her children to school and church. It was this shining example of a devoted single parent that he sought to emulate, while raising his two oldest daughters as a single father; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Rhea County High School, Tommy Snyder began his career with the Rhea County Highway Department in 1977 at the age of eighteen, riding his bicycle to work daily; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure with the highway department, Tommy Snyder worked under the direction of two elected road supervisors, learning the daily operations of the department; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Mr. Snyder was promoted to assistant road supervisor; in 1994, he was appointed to acting road supervisor by unanimous vote of the Rhea County Commission, a position he served in until 1996, when he was officially elected as road supervisor by the voters of Rhea County; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Snyder is currently serving his fifth term as road supervisor, in which capacity he has now served for eighteen years; and

WHEREAS, an active member of his community, Mr. Snyder currently serves as chairman of the Rhea County Finance Committee, member of the Rhea County Planning Commission, and second vice-president of the Tennessee County Highway Officials Association-Region II; and

WHEREAS, he served two terms as president of the highway officials association and still works closely with road supervisors state-wide, as well as state legislators, to improve highway related laws and budgets; and

WHEREAS, a longtime member of the Rhea County Republican Party, Mr. Snyder is a former party chairman and worked tirelessly for numerous Republican campaigns, the Lincoln and Reagan Day dinners, and other special events; he continues to support Republican candidates and the Republican morals, motto, and way of life; and

WHEREAS, the recipient of numerous awards and certificates, Tommy Snyder earned acknowledgments for his service in the community, including Outstanding Service-Tennessee County Highway Officials Association 1996 and 1999, Community Livability Award-Rhea Economic and Tourism Council 2011, Leadership Award-Tennessee County Services Association 2006-2007, and Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals Completion Award 2013, presented by the director of Community and Economic Development-Southeast Tennessee Development District; and

WHEREAS, a faithful member of Abba's House Church, Mr. Snyder has served in several ministries, including the church book store and café, welcoming committee teams, and special events committee; and

WHEREAS, his numerous accomplishments aside, he is also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Snyder is perhaps most proud of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Theresa Ballard Snyder, the couple's three children, Nicole Hunt, Heather Frazier, and Amanda Snyder, and his five grandchildren, Emilee and Lillie Hunt, Hunter Stinnette, and Brandon and Chloe Frazier; and

WHEREAS, through his estimable community involvement, Mr. Snyder epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Tommy Snyder for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Tommy Earl Snyder upon receiving the Elmer Hinds Republican of the Year Award for 2014, thank him for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.